# Old and obsolete technologies and their recent comeback

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# Agenda

- Short info
  - IRC
  - Gopher
  - MUDs
- Current usages

# IRC: Internet Relay Chat

- One of the first Internet Messaging systems
- Created in 1988 in Finland
- No message permanence
- Many terms originated from IRC are still widely used

Figure 1: A conversation on IRC

# Gopher

- Designed to serve documents over network
- Created in 1991, alongside HTTP
  - Licencing fees between 1993 and 2000 prevented widespread adoption
- A strongly defined hierarchy
- Doesn't support displaying anything other than text

Figure 2: A gopher page

# MUDs: Multi User Dungeons

- ▶ The original multi player games
- ▶ Described game world, player status and more using only text
- ▶ Text commands were used to interact with the game

[*Daily Blessing*] [213/213hp 197/197mn 548/548mv 0qt 914tnl] > w
Bard Clan Hall (G)
  You have entered a tall stone hall, with a well worn marble floor.
Stylized instruments are carved into the walls, and stone cherubs float on
marble columns bearing gilded harps.  An amazing variety of figures rush by,
dressed in bright and colourful cloaks that reflect the sunlight streaming
in from the slit windows cut deeply into the high walls.  To your south is
a door through which soft music can be heard. To the west, a tall staircase
can be seen rising to the second floor. Through the opening to the north one
may catch glimpses of a bubbling orange juice fountain and a plush, magenta
bench.  There is a wooden ladder in one corner, leading to an upstairs room.

There is a brightly-colored poster here.


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    |. . *** < ]|
    |---
    |[D] < > [#> [?]
    |        -+-
    |[ > [*]|
    -------

[ Exits: north east (south) west up ]
    [*] A generic voting booth is here
The statue of Calliope overlooks her visitors with a gentle expression.

Figure 3: An active MUD